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ABSTRACT

This packet of materials is for use by school librarians participating in a study of eighth-grade students' attitudes and the relationship of these attitudes to use of the school library. Included is a schedule of activities and an outline of procedures to be followed in the following activities: selection of students to attend six consecutive weekly special library sessions conducted by the librarian; selection of a control group; making arrangements for speakers; reviewing materials for sessions and/or booktalks; and displaying materials for each week's topic. Instructions provided for each of the special sessions provide a list of materials needed, a description of how the session is to be conducted, and a place to record the librarian's reaction. Topics covered are: (1) sports; (2) science fiction/fantasy; (3) how-to-books/crafts/hobbies; (4) almanacs; (5) World War II; and (6) scary stories. Suggestions for explaining the library use form, which is introduced after the fifth session, and instructions for mailing in surveys, forms, and the completed procedures packet, are included. (THC)

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Procedures

Students' Attitudes and Use of the School Library (Eighth Grade)

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Boulder, Colorado 80302

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2458 W. Onza Avenue
Mesa, AZ 85202
(602) 839-6524

Librarian's Name _____

School _____

IR050839

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SCHEDULE

September 5, 1983	Begin preparations for study
Week of September 19, 1983	Introduction and Sports
Week of September 26, 1983	Science Fiction/Fantasy
Week of October 3, 1983	How-To-Books/Crafts/Hobbies (speaker)
Week of October 10, 1983	Almanacs
Week of October 17, 1983	World War II (AV material)
October 20 or 21, 1983	Explain "Library Use Form" to both Group 1 & 2
*October 24, 1983	Begin using Library Use Forms for four weeks
Week of October 24, 1983	Scary Stories
Week of October 31, 1983	Survey students' attitudes (Groups 1 & 2) in classroom. Continue using Library Use Form
*November 18, 1983	Last day to use Library Use Form
Week of November 21, 1983	Mail Library Use Forms and completed Procedures for Library Study
Week of November 28, 1983 (Optional)	Begin Library Topics with Group 2

Procedures for Library Study

Prepared by Jamie Everett

September 5, 1983

-Select one eighth grade class to work with

-Obtain copy of (selected) class list

-Assign odd-numbered names (1st, 3rd, 5th, etc.) on class roster to Group 1; assign even-numbered names (2nd, 4th, etc.) to Group 2. (Group 1 will be the group that will attend the special library sessions conducted by the librarian. Group 2 remains in class with regular classroom teacher.)

-Librarian will meet with Group 1 once a week in the library for 45 minutes for a total of six weeks (starting the week of September 19).

-Please send one copy of original class list to

Mrs. Jamie Everett
2458 W. Onza Avenue
Mesa, AZ 85202

-Make arrangements for forthcoming speaker (Hobbies/Crafts, page 5) and AV material for World War II topic (page 7). Please read instructions for Selecting Speaker (page 2).

-Review materials needed for each topic so that you can give booktalks or be prepared for each session with Group 1.

-Display books/materials for the topic each week

Instructions for Selecting Speaker

Criteria for Speaker

- Enthusiastic
- Can motivate junior high students
- Experienced speaker with junior high students
- Is well-prepared to discuss topic
- Uses AV materials adequately (if necessary)
- Knows the purpose of his presentation
- Knowledgeable about subject

Background Information (to give the speaker)

- Length of time
- Time/Date/Place
- Grade level
- Specific topic
- Purpose
- Resources of library
- Non-payment

Information About Speaker (to be collected after presentation)

- Approximate age
- Profession/job
- Post-speech evaluation:

  Poor Average Good Outstanding

Week of September 19, 1983: Introduction and Sports

-Begin 45 minute Library Topics

-Librarian tells students in Group 1 that they will be learning about various fun and interesting topics during the next six weeks. Librarian might mention topics that will stimulate student interest and enthusiasm (10 minutes). Emphasize the need for not discussing library activities with students in Group 2.

-If there are any questions about why they are participating in this special group, tell them that you are interested in improving library services to all students and would like to try out new ideas with them. Under no circumstances tell them that they are participating in a study.

-Librarian introduces the topic of sports.

Sports (this topic includes games, racing, gymnastics, physical fitness, etc.)

Materials needed:

-books on sports
-articles on sports from newspapers and magazines (there should be enough for each small group to have 4-5 articles)
-sport equipment (optional)

-Librarian displays books on sports. If possible a display of sporting equipment could accompany the book display. (This display is basically for students in Group 1.)

-Librarian should divide the group into smaller groups (2-3 students) and give each small group a few articles. Librarian should provide these articles and they should cover a variety of sports. They should be interesting and appealing to the students. Librarian should instruct the groups to read the articles and find at least one they would like to share with the rest of Group 1. Encourage students to give their reactions to a particular article (i.e. on an article about the high salaries that some athletes make, encourage students to comment about it).

-Librarian gives booktalks on several of the books displayed. Be sure to include books that will appeal to both boys and girls.

-Let students browse and check out books.

Librarian's reaction: (This should briefly include how librarian felt about the activity, students' reactions, what things went over well, where there were problems and suggested changes, if needed.)

_____

_____

Week of September 26, 1983: Science Fiction/Fantasy

Materials needed:

-books on science fiction/fantasy
-white butcher paper or large pieces of white construction paper
-crayons, markers, etc.

-Librarian displays books on science fiction/fantasy.

-Librarian should give a brief talk explaining what science fiction/fantasy is. Librarian should tell students that many times a special "world" is created for the characters in a science fiction/fantasy story. Librarian may want to give an example from one of the books on display.

-Librarian should divide students into small groups (3-4 students).

-Librarian instructs students that they are going to create (draw, design, sketch) their own science fiction/fantasy "world" (using the butcher paper, markers, crayons). Their "world" should include a map of their world, a flag, people (creatures), customs, etc. Encourage students to be creative.

Librarian's reaction: _____

_____

_____

Week of October 3, 1983: How-To-Books/Crafts and Hobbies

Materials needed:

-book display
-guest speaker/demonstrator

-Librarian displays different crafts/hobbies and the corresponding library books.

-Guest Speaker/Demonstrator: Librarian could have one or more people explaining their craft/hobby and showing their work. If there is more than one speaker, students can decide which one they want to hear. The guest speakers could be parents, teachers or even other students.

-If time permits librarian could have students explain their own hobbies or crafts that they do.

-To be filled out by librarian after presentation:

Information About Speaker

Approximate age

Profession/job

Post-speech evaluation:

Poor Average Good Outstanding

Librarian's reaction: _____

_____

_____

Week of October 10, 1983: Almanacs

Materials needed:

-a copy of almanac questions for each student
(these are included in this packet)
-almanacs

-Librarian should briefly explain an almanac and where it can be found in the library.

-Librarian should pass out almanac questions and instruct students to use the almanacs to find the answers. Librarian may wish to make this into a contest - i.e., see who can finish first with correct answers.

-If time permits, librarian may want to encourage students to see what other interesting things they can find in an almanac. Also the librarian may suggest to students to look in other reference books such as Famous First Facts.

Librarian's reaction: _____

_____

_____

Week of October 17, 1983: World War II

Materials needed:

-book display
-AV material on World War II (film, filmstrip, etc.)

-Librarian sets up display of WW II books, both fiction and non-fiction. If librarian can acquire any realia dealing with WW II this should also be displayed with books.

-Librarian informs students about the topic and shows the display. Librarian introduces the film (or other AV material) and shows it.

-Librarian can hold a brief discussion about the film.

-Librarian gives a booktalk about some of the books on display. Be sure to include books that would appeal to both girls and boys.

Librarian's reaction: _____

_____

_____

October 20 or 21: Explaining Library Use Forms

This should be done either Thursday (October 20) or Friday (October 21) of the fifth week so students will start signing in at the beginning of the sixth week (Monday, October 24). It can be explained to both Group 1 and Group 2 at the same time.

Librarian should explain the following:

-Every time students from either Group 1 or Group 2 come into the library, they must sign in on the "Daily Library Use Form" This means students from both groups.

-When the students sign in they must put the date, their name (first and last), and put a check in the proper category as to the purpose of their visit to the library - free time, study, used resources of library or full class activity.

-These categories are defined as:

free time - students come in but do not use any resource of the library nor are they studying.

study - students bring work or material and simply use the library to study. They do not use any resources of the library.

used resources of the library - students check out books, look up facts, use any resource of the library. When student library aids come to assist the librarian, whether they are in Group 1 or 2, they would check this category.

full class activity - this category includes the time when the entire class comes in or when the special Group 1 comes in.

-Be sure to stress how important it is that all students from both groups sign in.

-If students question why they are doing this, give a general answer such as, data will be used on a library use report, etc. Do not tell them they are involved in a study.

-Inform students that they will sign in for a period of four weeks - from the week of October 24 through the week of November 14.

-Librarian should ask the teacher to periodically remind the students to sign in.

-If students are not signing in, the librarian should remind them to do so.

Week of October 24, 1983: Scary Stories

Materials needed:

-book display
-"scary story" to read to students
(Alvin Schwartz's Scary Stories to Read in the Dark
is a suggestion)
-a candle (optional)

-Librarian reads a scary story to the students. For added atmosphere, the librarian may wish to darken the room and read by candlelight. If students are enthusiastic and time permits, the librarian may want to read more than one story.

-Librarian draws attention to book display. Librarian may give a booktalk or simply let students browse through the books and select one they might like to read.

-If time permits librarian should have a short discussion with students on what makes a good "scary story."

-Please remind students to sign in on the Library Use Forms starting Monday, October 24.

Librarian's reaction: _____

_____

_____

Week of October 31, 1983:

-Selected 8th grade classroom teacher surveys students (Group 1 and Group 2) in regular classroom. These will be sent from Dr. Schon to the librarian to give to the teacher. Specific instructions will be included. As soon as these are completed, the classroom teacher should mail them to Dr. Schon.

-Continue having students sign in on Library Use Forms for three more weeks.

Week of November 21, 1983

-Mail (First Class) "Library Use Forms" and completed "Procedures for Library Study" (be sure you filled out Librarian's Reaction and Information about Speaker) to:

Dr. Isabel Schon
Associate Professor
College of Education, Box FLS
Arizona State University
Tempe, Arizona 85287

optional: November 28 begin library topics with Group 2. Do not begin with Group 2 before November 28.

ALMANAC ANSWER SHEET

1. New York (urban) 16,478,769
   (Population, world, cities)

2. Pittsburgh Steelers
   (Football, professional, Super Bowl)

3. 1890
   (Presidents of the U.S., birth)

4. 8' 0"
   (Statue of Liberty)

5. Pennsylvania Ave.
   (White House)

6. ASU 1,677 Harvard 1,310
   (Colleges and Universities, faculty, number)

7. Alvin Adams, Phoenix
   (Basketball, Rookie of the Year)

8. Arizona 19, California 21, New Mexico 21
   (Alcohol, drinking age, legal)

9. 85726
   (ZIP codes)

10. ".... life of author and 50 years after author's death."
    (Copyright law, U.S.)

11. Columbia Broadcasting System
    51 W. 52nd St,
    New York, NY 10019
    (Television, nework addresses)

12. Arizona $2,433 Alaska $5,146
    (Education, expenditures, by state)

13. Aiken, et al United States
    (Inventions)

14. Mandarin,China 726 million people
    (Languages of the world)

15. Secretariat
    (Horse racing, Triple Crown winners)